

TINTWISTLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Medical Officer's Report for the year ending 31st December, 1965

To the Chairman and Members of Tintwistle Rural District Council

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the health of Tintwistle for the year 1965.

Certain vital statistics for the area came too late to permit the writing of this report in 1966.

Deaths for the year 1965 totalled 21, giving an average of 20.3 deaths per annum over the past 3 years. The crude death rate based on this figure is 13.53 per thousand. When this figure is corrected to take into account the higher proportion of "senior citizens" in our population we have a death rate of 12.04. This figure is slightly higher than that for England and Wales as a whole and is more in line with an urban area rather than a rural area.

Table 1 . . . Numbers of Deaths by Sex and Age Group 1963 to 1965

| Year                            | Total All Ages | 0 - 24 yrs | 25 - 64 | 65 - 74 | 75 + | Total |  |
|---------------------------------|----------------|------------|---------|---------|------|-------|--|
| 1963                            | 21             | M -        | 7       | 3       | 1    | 11    |  |
|                                 |                | F -        | 3       | 2       | 5    | 10    |  |
| 1964                            | 19             | M -        | 3       | 8       | 3    | 14    |  |
|                                 |                | F -        | 3       | -       | 2    | 5     |  |
| 1965                            | 21             | M 2        | 1       | 4       | 2    | 9     |  |
|                                 |                | F -        | 2       | 5       | 5    | 12    |  |
| 3 years<br>1963-1965            | 61             | M 2        | 11      | 15      | 6    | 34    |  |
|                                 |                | F -        | 8       | 7       | 12   | 27    |  |
| 3 year totals<br>as percentages |                | M          | 38%     | 44%     | 18%  |       |  |
|                                 |                | F          | 30%     | 26%     | 44%  |       |  |

In the blunderbuss table above the numbers of deaths over the 3 years 1963, 1964 and 1965 are divided up into sex and broad age groups. The totals given as percentages show clearly that the general pattern is as elsewhere. It is the male who predominates in the younger age groups and the female in the older age groups.

In the following table the 1963 to 1965 total of deaths has been broken down by sex and age groups into "causes".

Table 2

| Disease Group                            | 0 - 24 |   | 25 - 64 |   | 65 - 74 |   | 75 + |   |
|--|--------|---|---------|---|---------|---|------|---|
|  | M      | F | M       | F | M       | F | M    | F |
| Cancer                                   | -      | - | -       | 4 | -       | - | 1    | 1 |
| 'Stroke'                                 | -      | - | 1       | 2 | 3       | 2 | 2    | 2 |
| Coronary Heart Disease                   | -      | - | 6       | - | 5       | 4 | 1    | 4 |
| All other heart and circulatory diseases | -      | - | 2       | 2 | -       | - | 1    | 3 |
| Bronchitis                               | -      | - | -       | - | 3       | - | -    | - |
| All other causes                         | 2      | - | 2       | - | 4       | 1 | 1    | 2 |

In this table the prominent part played by Coronary heart disease in early deaths in the male stands out.

During the autumn of 1964 an emergency clinic for polio vaccination was opened on several occasions. Voluntary help provided the bulk of the man-power needed and I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all who gave so freely of their time and energy. In a moment of need it was most encouraging to find so many willing to help in such an unselfish fashion.

I wish to thank Mr. Skirrow for his excellent report and for his unfailing co-operation, and also to express my thanks to you Mr. Chairman, to the members of the Council, and to the Clerk, for their interest and help during the year.

Yours faithfully,

A. S. DARLING,

Medical Officer of Health  
Tintwistle R.D.C.

## POPULATION

The Registrar General's estimate for mid-1965 was 1,470.

## BIRTHS

There were 31 live births during 1965. Of these 19 were males and 12 females.

The Crude Birth Rate was 21.1 per 1,000 compared with 17.7 per 1,000 in 1964. When adjusted for comparative purposes with other areas the birth rate was 20.7 per 1,000 compared with 18.1 for England and Wales.

There were no Still Births.

## DEATHS

The number of deaths during 1965 was 21. Of these 9 were males and 12 females. (See page 4).

## INFANT MORTALITY

One infant died under the age of twelve months.

## MATERNAL MORTALITY

No deaths occurred as a result of pregnancy.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following figure indicates the extent to which all types of notifiable infectious diseases occurred.

Measles ..... 7

## TUBERCULOSIS

Only one case of Tuberculosis (non-pulmonary) remained on the Register on 31st December 1965.

## SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### CARE OF MOTHERS AND BABIES

The Clinic at Christ Church School, Tintwistle, was held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. A doctor, a nurse, and members of the Ladies' Voluntary Committee attended each session.

Attendances were as under:-

| New Cases | Total Attendances | Average Attendances | Seen by Doctor |
|-----------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| 35 (31)   | 869 (687)         | 29 (29)             | 102 (107)      |

Figures in brackets indicate the corresponding numbers in the previous year.

A Ladies Voluntary Welfare Committee provides valuable assistance to the Doctor and Nurse in attendance by the sale of infant foods, the provision of teas to mothers, and clerical duties in connection with the Clinic. In addition to the stock of proprietary infant foods maintained by this Committee the issue of National Welfare Foods is undertaken.

One member of this Committee attends the monthly meetings of the Hyde Divisional Health Committee, thus providing a very necessary link between this voluntary body and the statutory Divisional Health Committee which in effect is a Sub-Committee of the Cheshire County Health Committee.

## NURSING SERVICES

The services of a Health Visitor who is also responsible for covering the Longdendale U.D.C. area are available. Her duties include the visiting in the homes of all children under the age of 5 years, attendance at Clinic sessions and the visiting of school children in need of medical supervision.

The care of the aged and infirm in their own homes forms an important part of her duties, and visits to cases of Tuberculosis and other Infectious Diseases are carried out by this Nurse.

Cases of general sickness in the home receive nursing attention from a District Nurse employed by the Cheshire County Council resident in Hollingworth.

For maternity cases a Domiciliary Midwife resident in Hollingworth covers the Council's area.

Each of these three nurses owns a car.

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1965 IN THE RURAL DISTRICT OF TINTAGEL

| CAUSE OF DEATH                             | Sex | Total<br>all ages | Under<br>4 weeks | 4 wks.<br>and<br>under<br>1 yr. | AGE IN YEARS |    |     |     |     |     |     |
|--|-----|-------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|  |     |                   |                  |                                 | 1-           | 5- | 15- | 25- | 35- | 45- | 55- |
| 12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast             | M   | -                 | -                | -                               | -            | -  | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   |
|  | F   | 1                 | -                | -                               | -            | -  | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   |
| 17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System     | M   | 2                 | -                | -                               | -            | -  | -   | -   | -   | 1   | 1   |
|  | F   | 3                 | -                | -                               | -            | -  | -   | -   | -   | 2   | 2   |
| 18. Coronary Disease, Angina               | M   | 2                 | -                | -                               | -            | -  | -   | -   | -   | 1   | 1   |
|  | F   | 6                 | -                | -                               | -            | -  | -   | -   | -   | 4   | 2   |
| 20. Other Heart Disease                    | M   | 1                 | -                | -                               | -            | -  | -   | -   | -   | 1   | 1   |
|  | F   | 1                 | -                | -                               | -            | -  | -   | -   | -   | 1   | 1   |
| 21. Other Circulatory Disease              | M   | 1                 | -                | -                               | -            | -  | -   | -   | -   | 1   | 1   |
|  | F   | 1                 | -                | -                               | -            | -  | -   | -   | -   | 1   | 1   |
| 24. Bronchitis                             | M   | 1                 | -                | -                               | -            | -  | -   | -   | -   | 1   | 1   |
|  | F   | 1                 | -                | -                               | -            | -  | -   | -   | -   | 1   | 1   |
| 31. Congenital Malformations               | M   | 1                 | -                | -                               | -            | -  | -   | -   | -   | 1   | 1   |
|  | F   | 1                 | -                | -                               | -            | -  | -   | -   | -   | 1   | 1   |
| 32. Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases | M   | 1                 | -                | -                               | -            | -  | -   | -   | -   | 1   | 1   |
|  | F   | 1                 | -                | -                               | -            | -  | -   | -   | -   | 1   | 1   |
| 34. All Other Accidents                    | M   | 1                 | -                | -                               | -            | -  | -   | -   | -   | 1   | 1   |
|  | F   | 1                 | -                | -                               | -            | -  | -   | -   | -   | 1   | 1   |
| TOTAL ALL CAUSES                           | M   | 9                 | 1                | -                               | -            | -  | -   | -   | 1   | 4   | 2   |
|  | F   | 12                | -                | -                               | -            | -  | -   | -   | 2   | 5   | 5   |

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# TINTWISTLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Inspector's Report for the year ending 31st December, 1965

## WATER SUPPLY

Details of the supply system are as described in previous reports, viz. that the village of Tintwistle can be fed from either Stonebrake Reservoir, or alternatively from the Harrop Edge Reservoir which latter is supplied from the main Longdendale Reservoir chain, via the Ainfield and Godley treatment plants.

Regular weekly samples of the mains supply are taken by the undertaking suppliers, Manchester Corporation Waterworks, in addition to which 4 samples submitted by myself to the Public Health Laboratory showed Nil Counts on both Coliform Bacilli and Bact. Coli (Type 1) per 100 ml.

Sample reports over a number of years support the statement of the Chief Chemist to Manchester Corporation Waterworks that the supply is of satisfactory quality, chemically and bacteriologically.

There is no fluoride treatment.

The number of houses on mains supply is 554. There are no houses on stand-tap supply, though 25 dwellings are on private supply, most being under the control Manchester Corporation Waterworks in the catchment area.

## HOUSING

Work proceeded during the year on the construction of 42 housing units at the south side of West Drive, Tintwistle, consisting of 32 three bedroom houses, 2 four bedroom houses, and 8 single bedroom flatlets.

Twelve units were occupied by the end of the year.

The Council continued to implement to the full its powers of contribution towards the improvement of properties both under Standard and "Discretionary" grant provisions. The number of houses improved during the year was 7, one of these being the conversion of two unfit properties (94, 94A Old Road, Tintwistle) into one dwelling.

One property (75 Old Road, Tintwistle) was provided with bathroom amenities without grant application.

Within the limits of availability of monies, the Council also continued to make advances for house purchase for owner/occupiership and for owners' share of grant improvement scheme costs.

A sub Committee met during the year to consider what properties should be listed as unsuitable for improvement and likely to call for action towards closure or demolition.

Demolition of four cottages at Tunnel Top, Woodhead, which were owned by British Railways was carried out late in the year.

The conversion of six cottages at Stone Row, Crowden, into a Youth Hostel was completed.

There are neither common lodging houses nor houses in multiple occupation within the district.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES, SEWERAGE

The district is 100% water carriage served, though some 40 properties discharge to septic tank, most of these being owned by Manchester Corporation Waterworks in their catchment areas, with special arrangements for effluent discharge.

Some trouble arose on the septic tank serving Nos. 1, 3 and 2 to 14, Manchester Road, Tintwistle which involved filter media renewal and work on the effluent line, and improvements were also put in hand to the septic tank serving the Crowden Youth Hostel, and to the effluent drain from the Children's Camp at Townhead under the control of Manchester Education Committee.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES, SEWERAGE (Cont'd)

Blockages occurred on the main storm water sewer below West Drive, largely due to lack of care on new connections from the Housing Development south of West Drive.

Manholes exposed on the foul sewer on the perimeter of the Cricket Field, Manchester Road, Tintwistle were re-built and provided with new covers.

Surcharging occurred on the County Council surface water sewer at the West end of West Drive! This was cleared by the County Council, who also promised attention to the surface water discharge from Crossgate Lane in the form proper street gully provision with discharge through a silt chamber.

Further damage was done by vandals at the Sewage Works, but in August new sprinkler mechanisms were installed to the filters, which equipment was to be utilised in the re-constructed works, tenders for which were put out in July 1965, with the later acceptance of a tender for approximately £45,000, which included a comprehensive scheme for the complete modernisation of the works.

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The refuse collection which is carried out by private contract was as stated in last year's report the subject of a new three year contract commencing 1964. Until the latter part of the year this arrangement functioned satisfactorily with regular weekly collections in the whole of Tintwistle Village area and fortnightly collections in the Crowden and Woodhead districts. However towards the end of the year, due to difficulties being experienced by the contractor, the efficiency of the service began to decrease, and a special sub. committee met the contractor to discuss the position on 21st December, 1965. The provision of this service by private contract is fraught with difficulty in the event of a contractor either deciding or not being able to continue his contract, when the problem of finding alternative facilities can be very difficult and the position arising if this is not possible is, of course, extremely serious.

Consideration was given in February as to future policy on the provision and use of paper sacks for refuse collection, this being a review of the 120 holders installed in November 1962 and shortly afterwards. The Health Committee decided that, having regard to the difficulties experienced with the particular type of holders installed, the cost of weekly sack provision, and the mixed reception by householders of the system, no extension of the scheme would be made and that as the holders deteriorated they would be replaced by dustbins. It is disappointing that this pilot scheme did not have more successful results.

## RODENT CONTROL

As in previous years the whole of the sewer system was treated with Warfarin bait in Stockinette Bags, and continuous treatment given at the Sewage Works and Refuse Tip, while free treatment continued to be made at all domestic premises against both rat and mice infestation.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Inspections were carried out at 4 of the 6 premises registered under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, and notices were served in respect of two of these.

Two notices were also served asking for compliance at Food Premises with requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations.

A milk sampling service continued to be provided by the County Medical Officer's Department with notification of results of all samples taken within the district.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955  
OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963 (Cont'd)

Of the 7 raw milk samples taken, as retailed, 5 passed the Methylene Blue Test, while 2 failed to do so; 5 samples of Pasteurised milk and 3 samples of sterilised milk passed the respective Methylene Blue, Phosphatase, and Turbidity Tests.

Samples of raw milk from producer/retailers submitted to Brucella examination showed the following results:-

|                | Milk Ring Test          |          | Culture  |          | Biological |          |
|----------------|-------------------------|----------|----------|----------|------------|----------|
|                | Positive                | Negative | Positive | Negative | Positive   | Negative |
| Retail Samples | 2(+)<br>1(++)<br>3(+++) | 1        | 1        | 5        | Nil        | 1        |
| Bulk Samples   | 1(++)                   | Nil      | Nil      | 1        | Nil        | 1        |

Following the positive culture report shown above individual cow samples were taken from the producing farm, which results showed 9 cows negative on both Milk Ring Test and Culture Tests, one cow Milk Ring Test +++, Culture and Biological Tests negative, with a repeat sample negative on culture on this particular cow.

In a further series of individual cow samples later in the year at the same premises 9 cows were negative on Culture Test, with 5 negative on Milk Ring Test, 2+, 1++, and 1+++, while one animal was Milk Ring Test +++ and Culture positive.

After each of the above investigations animals showing adverse results were either removed from the herd or excluded from retail supply, and the producer was meantime pursuing a policy of calf vaccination, and in fact hoped to be in a position towards the end of 1966 to meet all retail demand from such animals.

CLEAN AIR ACT

The district is not included in the list of "black areas" and no action, other than the occasional drawing attention of the staff at the one large factory in the district to care in avoiding industrial chimney emission, was taken.

Factories Act

No action was found to be necessary in this respect, there being only one major factory within the district.

